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# 'Faceless justice' haunts ex-agent

First of two articles

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BETHESDA, Md. — Bloomingdale's is a strange place to meet a former CIA operative who is threatening his ex-employers with the release of 7,500 agents' names and other state secrets if they don't do what he wants them to do.

Nevertheless at precisely 11 a.m. one day this month, a small bearded man arrived at the fourth floor of the White Flint Mall store, emerging through the stemware department carrying a plastic briefcase.

Donald Eugene Deneselya, 40, and his family have been haunted and hunted by FBI and CIA agents for 16 years, for reasons the former agency operative says he has yet to understand. He doesn't say so but the faceless justice pursuing him sounds like something out of Franz Kafka's novel "The Trial."

Deneselya carries much of his life around in his briefcase, documenting the reasons for his bitterness, his rage and his almost religious belief that the CIA has ruined his life. The feds follow him everywhere, he says.

Recent events have made him a wanted man. Two weeks ago, in an interview with this newspaper, he made public his private threats to those who run and have run the CIA. "Leave me and my friends alone or I will release the names of 7,500 CIA operatives," he has told the CIA and other federal agencies.

The publicity that followed that disclosure forced him to seek the anonymity of a meeting place in a suburban Washington shopping mall.

The friends he sought to protect are two Iranians who on April 3 were convicted of selling and distri-

buting nearly 7 pounds of pure heroin. The outcome of the trial forced him to modify his threat. Now he wants to see that his friends are neither deported to Iran, nor sentenced to jail. One friend is the son of the founder of Savak, the Iranian secret police; the other is an Iranian restaurant owner.

Since the publication of his threats, the media, too, has begun stalking Deneselya. Now "60 Minutes," Mike Wallace, CBS' Fred Graham, the Washington Post and the Associated Press call him. Deneselya is stunned by it all.

He does not seem to comprehend that his scheme to "get even" with the U.S. government has attracted worldwide attention and made him a public figure. He feels himself a martyr for an unknown cause. The officials he has called, indeed harassed, for years call him mentally unbalanced and a menace. Yet they have done nothing to put him behind bars.

He turned down "60 Minutes" because he believes the CIA has bought them off with stories, most recently Dan Rather's expedition into Afghanistan. He says he talks to the AP and the Sunday News Journal because he believes the CIA fears both news organizations. He offers no explanation for his feelings.

Deneselya, despite the magnitude of his threat, is not bombastic. He is a man with a mission, a man who wants to get even with an agency he says was out to ruin his life.

Stranger than all of his problems is his unwillingness to tell his personal story. "I don't want my wife and two children brought into this. This is between me and the CIA," he keeps saying.

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He was picked to be the "hand-holder" for "Ladle," the code name of an important Russian defector, Anatoli Golitsin.

He was to work for three months with Golitsin, who had brought several important bits of information to the CIA. In some quarters Golitsin is credited with revealing to Counterintelligence chief James J. Angleton that British agent Kim Philby was a longtime Soviet spy. In 1963 Philby defected to the Soviet Union from Britain.

Golitsin is also credited with detailing plans for a Soviet assassination of Richard Nixon if he had been elected president over Kennedy in 1960.

Not only was Deneselya privy to highly secret briefing papers, he also had to listen patiently to Golitsin's complaints about how little difference he found between the CIA where he had sought refuge and the KGB he had left Russia to escape.

By November 1962, Deneselya says, Golitsin was fed up with the CIA's Soviet Russia division and it with him. He took matters into his own hands. At a luncheon at the agency, he told Allen Dulles, then CIA director, that he would like to meet the president's brother, Robert Kennedy.

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